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Preston Rural District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

1960

Preston Rural District Council



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OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

1960

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Divisional Medical Officer, Lancashire C.C., Health Division 4.

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(Also holds office as Engineer and Surveyor)

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector :

T BAXTER, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

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Public Health Department,
Guildhall Street,
Preston.

**REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1960**

To the Chairman and Members of the Preston Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present for your consideration my Annual Report on the health, sanitary conditions and circumstances of the Preston Rural District in respect of the year ended 31st December, 1960, together with the vital statistics associated with that period.

The County Medical Officer of Health has again supplied vital statistics related to England and Wales—no longer issued by the Registrar-General—enabling a comparison with national figures to be made.

The estimated mid-year population of the Rural District for the period under review was 41,200, an increase of 430 on the previous year. Contributing to this increase was an excess of births over deaths amounting to 58—a natural increase—and an immigration into the area of 372. Whilst, over the past 25 years, the Rural District has decreased by 711 acres, the estimated population has increased by no less than 8,820; the number of persons per acre consequently rising from 0.15 in 1936 to 0.82 in the year under report.

There was again an increase in the number of live births, the figure of 654 being equivalent to a crude birth-rate of 15.9 per 1,000 of the estimated home population or 0.60 more than in the previous year and 0.80 greater than the average rate for the preceding five years. It was, in fact, the highest rate recorded since 1947. When adjusted to render it comparable with the rate for England and Wales, this crude rate is increased to 19.0 or 1.9 higher than that for the country as a whole. Stillbirths numbered 12, or 3 more than in 1959, and the rate per 1,000 total births rose from 14.2 in the previous year to 18.0, but was 2.2 less than the average rate for the preceding five years and 1.7 per 1,000 below the rate for England and Wales. Illegitimate live births at 18 were 4 above the average annual number for the last decade.

Mortality showed a small increase, the 596 deaths representing an increase of 6 over 1959, but the crude death-rate at 14.5 per 1,000 of the estimated home population remained the same. In order to compare the mortality rate for the Rural District with that for England and Wales, it is necessary to adjust the crude rate of 14.5 by a factor designed to eliminate the variations in sex and age in local populations. The effect of this is to reduce the Rural District rate to 11.7 as compared with the national figure of 11.5. The order of importance of the principal constituent causes of mortality shows little change; heart disease, vascular lesions of the nervous system and cancer, in that order, accounting for about 69 per cent. of the total deaths. There was, however, a substantial decline in the mortality from pneumonia, bronchitis and influenza.

The figure of infant deaths at 18 represented an increase of 50 per cent. over 1959, and the mortality rate per 1,000 live births rose from 19.2 in that year to 27.5. Over the years, the number of infant deaths has been gradually reduced to a level which renders further reductions difficult to achieve, and, of course, an isolated upward trend in the mortality can always occur such as in the year under report—sometimes occasioned by the death of twins and triplets—and this can cause a comparison with previous years to be extremely unfavourable. There was one maternal death and two from tuberculosis.

The total incidence of infectious disease was again high, due mainly to 472 cases of measles. Whooping cough was rather more prevalent, and the high incidence of dysentery continued for the second year in succession. There was no case of acute poliomyelitis and only 3 cases have been notified during the past five years. Scarlet fever, respiratory tuberculosis and food poisoning notifications were less in number, and again diphtheria was absent from the area.

Though comprehensive statements on such matters as housing, sewerage, public cleansing, food hygiene and rodent control are included in the text of the Report, I consider that certain points of special interest require an introductory endorsement.

First of all, as regards the control of atmospheric pollution, co-operation at local level between industrial managements and your public health officials in the practical problems involved in the elimination of black smoke continued to be very good. In addition, continuing discussions were held with the regional alkali inspector in regard to the emission of grit from the chimneys of the Penwortham Electricity Generating Station, and it is hoped to secure further improvements which will finally eliminate this source of nuisance. The solution of the problem of industrial air pollution in Penwortham and the establishment of smoke control areas in the Preston C.B., along the eastern boundary of this parish, will make it urgent for the Council to consider the establishment of smoke control areas in the Rural District. The Ministry initially, and very wisely, pointed out that the establishment of smoke control areas would necessarily be gradual with progress governed by the supply of smokeless fuels, the rate at which appliances could be converted or replaced, and the rate at which local authorities were able to formulate and carry through their smoke control plan. The Council, progressive as they are where the public health is concerned, will no doubt, at the appropriate time, deal with this matter as energetically as circumstances will allow.

I refer now to the problem of rapidly modernising sub-standard housing accommodation. Some 138 properties have been dealt with under grant-aided schemes and the Council has disbursed about £22,000 for this purpose. Nevertheless, despite unceasing publicity nationally and locally, owners appear reluctant to take advantage of the liberal financial assistance which can be obtained, and the fact remains that unless, by some means, the work of modernisation can be accelerated, a great deal of property in the Rural District with a useful life ahead of it will degenerate into slums to be cleared at public expense. Without further legislation, it is unlikely that the required acceleration will be achieved.

The coming into force of the Noise Abatement Act, 1960, on the 27th November was a belated recognition of the fact that noise or vibration can be seriously prejudicial to health, and section one provides that noise or vibration which is a nuisance shall be a statutory nuisance for the purposes of Part III of the Public

Health Act, 1936. Of course, noise is involved in a complexity of circumstances, and I have little doubt that the Act of 1960 is but a forerunner of continuing legislation related to this problem.

In this introduction, I have confined comment to statistical data in the main and members are referred to the body of the Report for full and detailed information of the activities of the Department during the period under review.

In conclusion, I gratefully acknowledge the support of the members of the Public Health Committee, the valuable collaboration received from Mr. Young and Mr. Couperthwaite, and the efficient and diligent manner in which the Officers of the Department carried out their varied duties.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. WALKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS for the year 1960

With the kind permission of Dr. V. Barocas, Director of the Jeremiah Horrocks Observatory, Moor Park, Preston, I submit extracts from his report on local meteorological conditions which prevailed during 1960.

The year 1960 has been a very wet one throughout the whole country. In Preston, however, the total rainfall has not been as high as in other parts of the country, and although it was a wetter year than normal, no records were broken.

The total rainfall for the year was 43.50 inches, that is, 5.81 inches above average. In the last decade we had three years which were wetter, namely 1954 (the wettest year recorded in Preston since records started in 1876) with a total of 54.11 inches; 1950, with a total of 46.04 inches; and 1951, with a total of 45.25 inches. Compared with 1959, one of the few years in the last decade when the total was below average, the present year was much wetter, with a difference of 10.69 inches.

The distribution of rain in different seasons this year has been different from the average. Spring was, as usual, the driest season, and this year was particularly dry, 11.6% of the total rainfall, but the wettest season of the year was the autumn with 34.5% of the total as against an average of 29.6%. Another feature of 1960 was the fact that the autumn was wetter than the summer. It is of interest to compare here the seasonal distribution for the year with the previous year and with the average based on a period of 84 years.

	1960	1959	Average
	%	%	%
Winter	20.5	14.9	21.5
Spring	11.6	20.7	19.1
Summer	33.4	15.5	29.8
Autumn	34.5	48.9	29.6

From the above we can see that the autumn of 1959 was on the whole wetter than the autumn of this year. The total rainfall for this season in 1959 was 16.06 inches as compared with 15.01 inches this year.

Although the second part of the year was very wet, the first part was warm and dry with a good deal of sunshine and clear skies.

Of all the months of the year November was the wettest. The total rainfall was 8.17 inches (4.58 inches above average), making this the wettest November on record at our observatory.

The driest month of the year was June with a total rainfall well below average. Normally in Preston the wettest month is August and the driest April.

February, March, April, May, June, September and October were all months when the total rainfall was below average, while January, July, August, November and December had a rainfall above average.

The wettest day of the year was December 3rd, when 1.30 inches were recorded, and there were in the whole year four days with rainfall greater than one inch. The number of rain days for 1960 was 222, compared with 197 for the average year and 176 for the previous year.

The lack of sunshine in the last few months, coupled with the heavy rain, produced very wet ground, and the ground was flooded on 58 days compared with 18 days in 1959. This figure, however, compares favourably with 1958, when the ground was flooded on 73 days.

No droughts, partial or absolute, were recorded, but there was a dry spell from April 13th to May 3rd. In spite of the large amount of rain in some months, no wet spell occurred and there were only two rain spells, the first from July 9th to July 28th, and the second from November 19th to December 5th.

The average relative humidity for the year was normal in spite of the rather low humidity experienced during the spring months. Dry air was recorded on 11 days.

The average temperature for the year as a whole was 0.4°F . higher than normal. Most of the months of the year were warmer than average. May, for instance, was 3.2°F . above average, and even November was 0.8°F . higher than normal. In contrast, July, August, September and December were all months cooler than average, and so against a dry, sunny and warm spring we experienced a wet, dull and cool summer.

The warmest month of the year was June with an average temperature of 60.3°F . It was in June that the hottest day of the year occurred, the highest temperature recorded being 81.5°F . on June 5th.

The coldest month was December, with an average temperature of 38.5°F ., which was 1.9°F . lower than normal, but the lowest temperature, as usual, was recorded in February ; on February 14th the minimum reached 24.0°F . This was not an unusual temperature for the time of the year ; indeed, normally much lower temperatures are recorded in Preston in February.

Ground frost occurred 85 nights during the year, as compared with 64 the previous year. Air frost was recorded on 52 occasions, nine times more than in 1959.

The distribution of wind shows a prevalence of easterly winds throughout the year. On 87 days there was no wind, and at the other extreme eight gales were recorded.

Snow fell on 22 days, but only on two days did it cover the ground at 09.00 G.M.T. and its depth was less than one inch.

Hail was recorded on 17 days compared with 11 days in 1959, and thunder was heard on 22 days, the only months without thunder being January, March and October.

Fog at 09.00 G.M.T. was recorded on 26 days, an average amount for Preston, and on ten occasions the fog was very dense. In addition, fog was experienced during the day and night, particularly in the latter part of the year.

Dry air (relative humidity less than 60%) was recorded on 11 days, and excellent visibility was recorded on seven occasions.

Glaze was observed once in January and once in December, and the Moor Park pond was frozen on 19 days, the ice never being very thick.

The optical phenomena observed in 1960 consisted of 30 solar and three lunar halos, three solar and 14 lunar coronae, and nine rainbows. On one occasion a very fine example of a double rainbow was observed.

A particularly striking solar halo was seen on October 30th in the morning. It consisted of both the halos of 22 and 46 degrees, parhelic circle, and arc of contact of 22 degrees. In addition, the circumzenithal arc and parhelia were also visible, the colours being very bright.

Some of the meteorological observations for 1960 are summarised in the tables which follow :

EXTREMES OF TEMPERATURE

Month	Highest Maximum Temp. ° F			Lowest Minimum Temp. ° F			Lowest Maximum Temp. ° F			Highest Minimum Temp. ° F			Date		
January	55	...	22	...	25	...	10 & 17	...	33	...	13	...	50	...	23
February	60	...	29	...	24	...	14	...	36	...	11	...	48	...	29
March	59	...	24	...	32	...	9	...	36	...	8	...	48	...	1
April	60	...	19	...	29	...	17	...	49	...	15	...	49	...	9
May	72	...	26	...	34	...	2	...	50	...	1	...	55	...	27
June	81	...	5	...	43	...	15	...	60	...	9	...	58	...	23
July	69	...	3	...	46	...	3	...	59	...	6	...	58	...	28
August	72	...	22	...	43	...	12	...	58	...	13	...	60	...	5
September	72	...	11	...	36	...	21	...	57	...	27	...	57	...	11
October	64	...	4	...	28	...	13	...	52	...	19	...	54	...	4
November	59	...	1	...	27	...	7	...	44	...	17 & 18	...	46	...	2
December	52	...	3	...	24	...	13	...	35	...	12	...	45	...	1
Year	81.5		June 5		24.0		Feb. 14		33.5		Jan. 13		59.9		Aug. 5

RAINFALL AND RELATIVE HUMIDITY

Month	Total			Difference		No. of Days			Wettest days			Vapour		Relative		
	Rainfall			from		Rain		Wet		Fall		Pressure		Humidity		
	inches		inches		Days		Days		inch		Date		in mbs.		% satur.	
January	...	5.39	...	+2.15	...	19	...	15	...	1.12	...	29	...	7.2	...	90.9
February	...	2.28	...	−0.16	...	20	...	13	...	0.29	...	18	...	6.9	...	85.4
March	...	1.23	...	−1.12	...	14	...	10	...	0.29	...	1	...	7.3	...	78.6
April	...	1.98	...	−0.09	...	14	...	9	...	0.56	...	12	...	9.0	...	76.6
May	...	2.13	...	−0.36	...	12	...	7	...	0.92	...	12	...	11.0	...	72.5
June	...	0.94	...	−1.74	...	11	...	8	...	0.25	...	7	...	13.6	...	71.5
July	...	5.69	...	+2.23	...	25	...	21	...	1.27	...	6	...	13.9	...	80.7
August	...	5.51	...	+1.33	...	23	...	20	...	1.14	...	29	...	14.0	...	81.7
September	...	3.34	...	−0.22	...	16	...	16	...	0.49	...	22	...	12.9	...	85.3
October	...	2.52	...	−1.36	...	19	...	15	...	0.58	...	17	...	10.9	...	88.5
November	...	8.17	...	+4.58	...	27	...	25	...	1.25	...	26	...	9.0	...	89.9
December	...	4.32	...	+0.63	...	22	...	17	...	1.30	...	3	...	7.0	...	90.3
Year		43.50	...	+5.87	...	222	...	176	...	1.30		Dec. 3		10.2	...	82.7

VISIBILITY at 09.00 G.M.T.

Number of days

Month	Dense Fog		Thick Fog		Fog		Mod. Fog		Mist or Haze		Poor Visi- bility		Mod. Visi- bility		Good Visi- bility		Very Good Vis.		Excel. Visi- bility	
January	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	3	...	3	...	10	...	8	...	0	...	3	...	0
February	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	3	...	2	...	11	...	7	...	3	...	3	...	0
March	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	1	...	3	...	11	...	12	...	3	...	1	...	0
April	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	1	...	15	...	10	...	2	...	2	...	0
May	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	11	...	13	...	3	...	4	...	0
June	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	3	...	17	...	2	...	7	...	1
July	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	1	...	1	...	4	...	14	...	8	...	3	...	0
August	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	11	...	14	...	3	...	3	...	0
September	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	3	...	4	...	11	...	5	...	3	...	4	...	0
October	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	3	...	1	...	12	...	8	...	1	...	6	...	0
November	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	4	...	3	...	10	...	10	...	0	...	3	...	0
December	...	1	...	2	...	3	...	1	...	7	...	5	...	7	...	3	...	2	...	0
Year	...	2	...	3	...	5	...	19	...	25	...	114	...	125	...	31	...	41	...	1

WEATHER

Number of days

Month	Snow or Sleet	Snow Lying at 0900 G.M.T.	Hail	Thunder heard	Fog at 0900 G.M.T.	Gale Wind- force 8 or above	Ground Frost	Air Frost
January	...	6	...	0	...	2	...	12
February	...	9	...	2	...	5	...	14
March	...	2	...	0	...	0	...	3
April	...	0	...	0	...	1	...	1
May	...	0	...	0	...	4	...	0
June	...	0	...	0	...	1	...	0
July	...	0	...	0	...	1	...	0
August	...	0	...	0	...	3	...	0
September	...	0	...	0	...	1	...	0
October	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	2
November	...	0	...	0	...	3	...	4
December	...	5	...	0	...	1	...	16
Year	...	22	...	2	...	17	...	52

Physical Features of the Area

The Rural District is largely a lowland area, mainly below 250 feet, lying largely to the north of the River Ribble, but with considerable extensions south of the river, south-west and east of Preston. In the extreme north of the district the land rises rapidly to 874 feet at Beacon Fell, and in the east heights of over a thousand feet are attained on the southern slopes of Longridge Fell. North of Preston the drainage is largely eastwards to the River Wyre, while the rest of the district drains directly or indirectly into the Ribble.

The solid geological formations represented in the district are the Carboniferous Limestone, Millstone Grit, Bunter Sandstone and Keuper Marl. These formations are rarely seen at the surface, however, because they are buried beneath a thick cover of "drift" deposits. Apart from the valley alluvium of the rivers and streams and the raised terraces along the Ribble and Darwen, the "drift" is composed of glacial boulder clay, sand and gravel.

The latter occur only as impersistent patches on the boulder clay, such as that to the north-east of Goosnargh, or is exposed in the sides of the many stream valleys. Boulder clay covers most of the district, and in general gives rise to a heavy clay soil. The numerous marl pits which were dug many years ago to obtain material to lighten the soil are a characteristic feature of boulder clay areas. The heavy clay soils provide excellent pastures which support dairy herds, and arable farming is of lesser importance. Poultry farming is widespread, as it is throughout the whole of the Fylde area.

The solid rocks have little effect on the physical features of the area because of the thick drift cover. Over much of the area this thick cover renders it impossible to determine with any degree of accuracy the nature and structure of the underlying rocks unless borings are undertaken. In the extreme north and east of the district, however, the solid formations outcrop at the surface. These outcrops belong to the Carboniferous Limestone and Millstone Grit formations. The former is the oldest formation represented in the district, but here it does not carry the massive limestone beds so characteristic of other areas, e.g., Clitheroe. It is composed of a thick series of shales with thin limestones, the Worston Shales and the Pendleside Limestone series which underlie the greater part of the parishes of Goosnargh, Whittingham and Houghton. Towards the top of the latter there is a rather thicker limestone bed, the Pendleside Limestone, which occurs on the northern flanks of Longridge Fell. The top of the Carboniferous Limestone is formed by the Lower Bowland Shales, which contain a fairly characteristic grit band, the Pendleside Grit. These occur on Beacon Fell and Longridge Fell. The Millstone Grit is represented by a series of grits and shales. The lowest beds are the Upper Bowland Shales, which are succeeded by the massive Pendle Grit. This latter forms the conspicuous features of Beacon Fell and Longridge Fell, and, together with the overlying shales and grits, underlie the parishes of Hothersall, Ribchester and Dutton. Millstone Grit shales and grits are present beneath the "drift" in the southern part of the parish of Samlesbury, and the north-east part of Grimsargh parish. The grits in this area have not been tried as a source of water supply, so the potentiality of water bores is not known. Results from boring in grits vary considerably according to the nature of the grit and its openness of grain and extent of the jointing and fissuring.

West of the Carboniferous Limestone and Millstone Grit occurs the Triassic Bunter Sandstone, a fairly hard red, yellow or buff-coloured sandstone. The details of structure and the position of faults are only assumed, but the following picture has been obtained by the study of available bore records. The Bunter Sandstone is faulted against or overlies the most steeply dipping Carboniferous Limestone shales, and the Millstone Grit to the east and south-east. The sandstone dips gently to the north-west and occurs beneath the "drift" in the parishes of Barton, Woodplumpton, Lea, Hutton, Penwortham, Cuerdale, the south-west part of the parish of Grimsargh and the north-west part of Samlesbury parish. It is affected by strong faults, the exact positions of which are difficult to determine. The Bunter Sandstone is an excellent source of underground water, and there are several private water wells in Preston which draw on this source. It is probable that further supplies could be obtained north of Preston, but care would be needed in the siting of the wells.

Keuper Marl, thinly bedded, fine grained red marls with bands and patches of green-coloured marls and thin bands of fine grained sandstone or "skerries," are present beneath the boulder clay in the parishes of Longton, Little Hoole, Much Hoole and Farington. The beds dip north-westwards and are separated from the Bunter Sandstone to the north by a fault. Borings in Keuper Marl give little or no water, and that which is obtained is too highly mineralised to be of use for public supply.

General Statistics

STATISTICS AND GENERAL SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

- (1) Area in acres—49,758.
- (2) Population (Census 1951)—37,461.
- (3) Registrar-General estimate of home population, 1960—41,200.
- (4) Number of inhabited houses (Census 1951)—10,334.
- (5) Number of inhabited houses end of 1960, according to Rate Books—12,905.
- (6) Rateable value, 1st April, 1960—£548,303.
- (7) Sum represented by a penny rate—£2,241 (1st April, 1960, estimated).

The Rural District, which is mainly agricultural consists chiefly of pleasant, undulating country, dotted here and there with patches of woodland, and watered by innumerable brooks.

Dairy farming, poultry farming, market gardening, cotton manufacture, paper manufacture and engineering comprise the main industries. The employment available is of a healthy character, and there was little evidence of unemployment among the inhabitants of the district in 1960.

There are facilities for religious worship, according to denomination, throughout the district, and several parishes have Village Halls and/or Women's Institutes. In addition, there are clubs, based upon religious, political or recreational groups, and in these places, particularly in the winter months, lectures, concerts, dramatic society meetings, plays, debates and dances are held.

Golf courses are situated at Penwortham and Lea. There are cricket grounds at New Longton, Penwortham and Whittingham. Facilities for tennis, football and bowls are available, and Playing Fields have been provided by the Rural District Council in practically all parishes.

There are 39 schools in the area, providing facilities for both primary and secondary education, and the Lancashire County Council provides branches of the County Library mostly in schools and village halls throughout the district.

POPULATION OF THE RURAL DISTRICT

The Registrar-General's estimate of home population of the Rural District as at 30th June, 1960, was 41,200, an increase of 430 compared with the estimate of 40,770 for the previous year.

Estimates of home population include members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area and merchant seamen, whether at home or overseas, but exclude members of the Armed Forces stationed outside England and Wales, and non-civilians of foreign countries, Dominions, etc., temporarily in the country.

The natural increase in the population of the Rural District was 58, only the second time such an increase has occurred since all deaths occurring in the Whittingham Hospital and Ribchester Institution have had to be accepted (i.e., 1st January, 1954). Ignoring these deaths, the natural increase in the population was 212. The number of persons per acre was 0.82, and the number of acres per person 1.20.

VITAL STATISTICS

PERIOD	DEATHS (all causes)		LIVE BIRTHS		STILL- BIRTHS		LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS TOTAL	INFANT MORTALITY				NEO- NATAL	ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS	MATERNAL MORTALITY	
								TOTAL							
	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Popula- tion	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Popula- tion	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Total Births		No. of Deaths Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Live Births	Rate per 1000 legitimate Live Births	Rate per 1000 illegit- imate live births	Rate per 1000 live births	per cent of total live births	No. of Deaths Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Total Births
Year ... 1960...	596	*14.5	654	*15.9	12	18.0	666	18	27.5	28.3	—	22.9	2.7	1	1.50
Year ... 1959...	590	14.5	625	15.3	9	14.2	634	12	19.2	18.0	62	16	2.4	—	—
1958 ...	624	15.5	583	14.5	8	13.5	591	21	36	37	—	27.4	2.4	—	—
1957 ...	638	15.9	583	14.5	13	22	596	11	19	18	50	15	3.4	2	3.36
1956 ...	573	14.6	558	14.2	14	24	572	11	20	18	100	20	1.8	—	—
1955 ...	596	15.2	560	14.3	16	28	576	12	21	20	62	16	2.9	—	—
Average 5 years: 1955 — 1959	—	15.1	—	14.5	—	20.2	—	—	23	22	55	18.8	—	—	0.67

* Adjusted (live birth-rate; comparability factor, 1.20) = 19.0 per 1,000
(death-rate; comparability factor, 0.81) = 11.7 per 1,000

BIRTHS AND DEATHS

Live Births. The statistics with regard to both births and deaths have again been supplied by the Registrar-General through the County Public Health Department. The number of births and deaths referred to in this report are those registered during the calendar year, corrected for "inward" and "outward" transfers.

According to the Registrar-General, the total births registered in or belonging to the Rural Area during the year 1960 number 654 (males 326, females 328); 29 more than in the year 1959.

The live birth-rate for the Rural District, calculated on the estimated home population, corresponds to 15.9 per 1,000. Last year the rate was 15.3. The adjusted birth-rate, using the comparability factor supplied by the Registrar-General is 19.0. The live birth-rate for England and Wales for the year 1960 was 17.1.

The sex distribution of the children born alive during 1960 is shown below. For comparative purposes, the figures for the previous decade are also given :

Year	Males	Females	Total
1950	275	292	567
1951	260	238	498
1952	239	246	485
1953	270	271	541
1954	257	223	480
1955	282	278	560
1956	280	278	558
1957	302	281	583
1958	282	301	583
1959	319	306	625
1960	326	328	654

EXCESS OF BIRTHS OVER DEATHS

The figure for 1960 is 58, the second successive natural increase in the population of the Rural District since all deaths occurring in the Whittingham Hospital and Ribchester Institution have had to be accepted (i.e., 1st January, 1954). If such deaths are omitted then the natural increase in the population for the period of the last decade is as follows :

Year 1951	25	Year 1956	121
„ 1952	84	„ 1957	126
„ 1953	170	„ 1958	155
„ 1954	83	„ 1959	233
„ 1955	128	„ 1960	212

Illegitimate Live Births. The number of births of illegitimate children belonging to the Rural District and registered during 1960 compared with that of every other year of the last decade is shown overleaf :

Year 1951	16	Year 1956	10
„ 1952	13	„ 1957	20
„ 1953	12	„ 1958	14
„ 1954	5	„ 1959	16
„ 1955	16	„ 1960	18

The number of illegitimate live births at 18 was four above the average for the past ten years. The percentage figure of total live births at 2.7 is below the average yearly figure for the Administrative County since 1945.

STILLBIRTHS. The number of registered stillbirths assigned to the Rural District during 1960 was twelve (7 males, 5 females), or three more than in the previous year. The resultant rate was 18.0 per 1,000 total births. Expressed per 1,000 of the estimated home population, the Rural District rate was 0.29, compared with a rate for England and Wales of 0.34.

DEATHS. The net deaths actually belonging to the Preston Rural District for the year 1960 numbered 596 (males 284, females 312). This total includes deaths of persons belonging to the Rural District who died outside the district, and of persons who died in the Whittingham Hospital and Ribchester Institution irrespective of their home address.

The death-rate for the Rural District, calculated on a home population of 41,200 is 14.5 per 1,000, the same as last year. The average death-rate for the five year 1955-1959 was 15.1.

Once again the Registrar-General has supplied a comparability factor for adjusting local death-rates. This factor takes into account the varying population constitution, including sex and age distribution, to make every district comparative from the mortality point of view with the crude death-rate of the country as a whole, or with similarly adjusted death-rates for other areas. The adjusted death-rate using the comparability factor is 11.7 per 1,000, as against last year's adjusted rate of 11.3.

The death-rate for the whole of England and Wales in 1960 was 11.5 per 1,000 home population.

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH. Between 60 and 70 per cent. of all deaths each year are classified to causes falling within three main groups—heart disease, cancer and vascular lesions of the nervous system. The relative importance of these and of the other principal causes of death in 1960 is shown in the following table :

Cause of Death	No. of deaths	Percentage of total deaths
Heart disease (all forms)	237	39.7
Vascular lesions of nervous system	93	15.6
Cancer (including Hodgkin's disease, leukæmia and aleukæmia)	81	13.6
Pneumonia, Bronchitis and Influenza	41	6.8
Other circulatory disease	26	4.3
Violence, including all Accidents, Suicide and Homicide)	23	3.8

Compared with 1959, two changes have occurred in the above order ; an appreciable rise in deaths attributable to vascular lesions of the nervous system has promoted this cause to the second position of importance, and a rise in deaths from other circulatory disease has placed this cause above deaths from violence.

In the following paragraphs further details are given of the chief causes of death.

HEART DISEASES. Particulars of deaths from the various heart diseases are sub-divided into three groups—"coronary disease, angina," "hypertension with heart disease," and "other heart disease," and the deaths classified to these causes and assigned to the Rural District in 1960 and the preceding year, together with the equivalent mortality rates, are set out below :

Classification	No. of deaths		Death-rate per 1,000 estimated home population	
	1960	1959	1960	1959
Coronary disease, angina	100	84	2.42	2.06
Hypertension with heart disease	27	23	0.65	0.56
Other heart disease	110	105	2.67	2.57
Heart disease—all forms	237	212	5.75	5.19

The 237 fatalities from heart diseases represent an increase of 25 compared with the previous year, the resultant rate of 5.74 being 0.56 per 1,000 of population above that for 1959.

VASCULAR LESIONS OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.

There was a large increase in mortality ascribed to this group of causes during 1960, the 93 deaths being 11 more than the total for the previous year, and this group now becomes the second principal cause of death. The death-rate at 2.25 per 1,000 of the estimated home population was 0.24 and 0.17 per 1,000 in excess of the rates for 1959 and 1958, whilst the percentage figure of total deaths rose from 13.9 in 1959 to 15.6.

MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, INCLUDING NEOPLASMS OF LYMPHATIC AND HAEMATOPOIETIC TISSUES.

This group of causes is included in the Registrar-General's Short List under the headings used in the table below, which gives particulars of deaths assigned to the Rural District in 1960 and the previous year by sex :

Classification	1960			1959		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Stomach	12	8	20	10	7	17
Lung, Bronchus	10	1	11	12	1	13
Breast	—	8	8	—	11	11
Uterus	—	5	5	—	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	16	17	33	28	16	44
Leukæmia, aleukæmia	—	4	4	—	—	—
Total—all forms	38	43	81	50	36	86

A substantial decline in deaths of males from other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms was mainly responsible for the comparatively small decrease in total deaths from all forms of cancer, there being more deaths from cancer of the stomach and uterus, and leukæmia and aleukæmia.

Of the total deaths from all causes assigned to the Rural District in 1960, the 81 classified to all forms of cancer represented 13.6 per cent., and were equivalent to a rate of 1.96 per 1,000 of the estimated home population, which compares favourably with the average rate for Rural Districts in the Administrative County.

PNEUMONIA, BRONCHITIS AND INFLUENZA.

Forty-one deaths were assigned to this group : Pneumonia 26 (33), Bronchitis 15 (22), Influenza NIL (20). The figures in brackets are those for 1959, when 75 deaths were recorded. The following table illustrates the trend of this mortality during the last decade :

Year 1951	49	Year 1956	32
„ 1952	33	„ 1957	44
„ 1953	32	„ 1958	55
„ 1954	38	„ 1959	75
„ 1955	39	„ 1960	41

OTHER CIRCULATORY DISEASE.

This classification, which covers all diseases of the circulatory system except heart diseases mentioned earlier, accounted in 1960 for 26 deaths, four more than in 1959. The total of 26 amounted to 4.3 per cent. of the deaths from all causes and was equivalent to a rate of 0.63 per 1,000 of the estimated home population. The rates for 1959 and 1958 were 0.54 and 0.47.

VIOLENCE.

Deaths from violence are divided into four groups in the Registrar-General's Short List of 36 Causes of Death—motor vehicle accidents, all other accidents, suicide, and homicide and operations of war. The deaths thus classified and assigned to the Rural District in 1960, taking them in the same order, were 4, 11, 6 and 2, a total of 23, compared with 28 recorded deaths during 1959. Mortality from motor vehicle accidents declined by 5, all other accidents by 6, suicides rose by 4, and 2 deaths were attributed to homicide and operations of war. The percentage of total deaths from all causes was reduced from 4.7 to 3.8 compared with 1959.

The following table shows the net deaths actually belonging to the Rural District for the year 1960, distinguishing males and females, and the causes of death agree with the Short List of 36 Causes of Death based on the Sixth Revision of International Lists (introduced 1950), subject to the amendment that Pneumonia (490–493) now includes also Pneumonia of the newborn (763).

	Males	Females
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	—
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	1
3. Syphilitic disease	1	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
8. Measles	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	12	8
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	10	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	8
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	5
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	16	17
15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia	—	4
16. Diabetes	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	37	56
18. Coronary disease, angina	59	41
19. Hypertension with heart disease	17	10
20. Other heart disease	42	68
21. Other circulatory disease	8	18
22. Influenza	—	—
23. Pneumonia	8	18
24. Bronchitis	8	7
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	—
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa	4	2
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	3	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	5	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	1
31. Congenital malformations	2	3
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	34	29
33. Motor vehicle accidents	3	1
34. All other accidents	7	4
35. Suicide	1	5
36. Homicide and operations of war	2	—
ALL CAUSES.....	284	312

INFANT MORTALITY

The death of infants under the age of one year numbered 18, males 9, females 9, an increase of 50 per cent. compared with the mortality of the previous year.

Fifteen of the infant deaths occurred during the first four weeks after birth.

The mortality rate calculated per 1,000 live births was 27.5, as compared with a rate of 19.2 in 1959 and 36 in 1958.

The infant death-rate for the whole of England and Wales for 1960 was 21.7.

The following table analyses the causes of death in 1960 of infants at stated age periods :

Causes of Death.	DAYS												MONTHS												Total Deaths under one year
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	14	21-28	28-56	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11-12				
Congenital Malformations	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	3		
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Post-natal asphyxia and atelectasis	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4		
Birth Injuries	...	I	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2		
Other Diseases peculiar to early Infancy	...	3	I	I	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6		
All other causes	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	3		
Totals	...	9	2	I	I	I	...	...	...	I	...	I	...	...	...	I	I	...	...	...	...	...	18		

Of the total deaths at all ages, infant deaths in 1960 formed 3.02 per cent.

NEO-NATAL, EARLY NEO-NATAL AND PERINATAL MORTALITY. The Registrar-General, in addition to supplying particulars of neo-natal mortality (deaths of infants under four weeks of age), has also supplied information as to the deaths of infants under one week of age (early neo-natal mortality), and has also included the perinatal mortality rate, i.e., the number of stillbirths and early neo-natal deaths over the total live and stillbirths.

Fifteen infant deaths occurred under the age of four weeks, but fourteen of these were early neo-natal deaths, representing 77% of all infant deaths. The early neo-natal mortality rate was 21.4 per 1,000 live births, compared with the infant mortality rate of 27.5 per 1,000 live births. The perinatal rate per 1,000 total births was 39.0.

MATERNAL MORTALITY. There was one death recorded during 1960, corresponding to a mortality rate of 1.50 per 1,000 total births. Rates of this character, calculated for small areas, are sometimes rather fallacious, and one or two fatalities add very considerably to the death-rate. Only eight deaths have occurred from maternal causes since 1945.

Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases

Infectious cases are removed to the Deepdale Isolation Hospital, Preston. Very little trouble was experienced in getting patients into hospital, and transport arrangements were generally good and expeditious. Disinfection of houses, books, clothes, etc., was always carried out in those cases where it was considered essential.

SMALLPOX

No case of smallpox occurred during 1960, the thirty-first successive year for which the Rural District has been entirely free from the disease.

SCARLET FEVER

The number of notified cases at 54 was less than the figure for 1959 by 10, and by the same number when compared with the annual average incidence for the previous decennial period. The general mildness of the symptoms and the usual absence of complications tends to relegate the disease to a position of comparative insignificance. The bulk of the cases occurred during the first two months of the year, and case distribution principally involved the large urbanised locality of Penwortham. All the cases were confined to children and 20 were treated in hospital. According to local returns, no death classifiable to this cause occurred during 1960.

DIPHTHERIA

During the past decennium, not one single case has occurred in the Rural District, a gratifying testimony to the success of the artificial immunisation campaign, and if parents continue to seek protection for their children, this happy state of affairs should continue.

WHOOPING COUGH

Since 1958, when there was no incidence at all, the annual number of cases in the past two years has risen from 20 to 38. Nevertheless, this latter figure is considerably fewer than the annual incidence experienced prior to 1958.

MEASLES

Following the epidemic of 1959, the disease (assuming the usual biennial incidence pattern) should have been of minor numerical consequence during 1960. Unfortunately, this was not so, and a spate of cases occurred in the final quarter of the year. Case distribution principally involved the urbanised localities of Penwortham, Farington and Lea in that order. All the cases were confined to children; no death was recorded from this cause, and no one required hospital treatment.

DYSENTERY

Cases of dysentery notified in the Rural District during 1960 numbered 140, of which 42 occurred amongst inmates of the Whittingham Hospital. The remainder constituted a widespread outbreak of Sonne Dysentery which occurred in the spring of the year and a limited outbreak at a village school in the autumn. The usual exhaustive enquiries were made, advice tendered and precautions taken to limit primary spread and prevent secondary infection. Faeces specimens were taken from all known cases and contacts, and continued in each case until negative results were obtained. Symptoms generally were mild and of short duration.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS

No case occurred for the second year in succession, but how far this can be attributed to the intensive programme of vaccination against the disease which has been carried out in the last four years remains to be seen.

PARATYPHOID FEVER

One case was reported by a medical officer of the Whittingham Hospital concerning a female inmate aged 63 years. The causative agent was stated to be "Salmonella Paratyphi 'B'."

ANTHRAX

The provisions of section 60 of the Factories Act, 1937, required medical practitioners to notify the Chief Inspector of Factories of cases of anthrax contracted in any factory. A Committee of Inquiry on Anthrax appointed by the Ministry of Labour and National Service in June, 1957, reported in November, 1959, and included a recommendation that, in addition, anthrax should be made a notifiable disease under the Public Health Acts. In consequence, under the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Amendment Regulations, 1960, which came into force on the 1st December, anthrax is included with the diseases which were made notifiable by the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations, 1953.

An appropriate circular letter and a copy of the Amendment Regulations have been sent to each doctor practising in the Rural District.

NOTIFICATIONS. The table below shows the number of infectious and other notifiable diseases notified during the year 1960 after corrections subsequently made either by notifying medical practitioners or by the medical superintendent of the local infectious diseases hospital :

**Notification of Infectious and other Notifiable Diseases (after correction)
for the year ended 31st December, 1960, analysed by age**

Notifiable diseases	Total Cases Notified.											Total Deaths
	Total Cases at all ages.	Age Periods—Years.										
		0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25 & over	Age un-known	
Scarlet Fever	54		1	4	3	9	29	7	1	—	—	*26
Whooping Cough	38	4	3	3	4	2	18	2	—	1	1	
Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic	—						—					
Non-paralytic	—				—			—				
Measles (excluding rubella)	472	9	52	48	41	66	241	9	1	—	5	
Diphtheria	—											
Dysentery	140	4	6	8	8	4	23	7	7	72	1	
Meningococcal Infection	—			—								
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1									—	
		0-	5		15		45		65 and over		Age un-known	
Acute Pneumonia (prim & infl'zal)	7	—	—		2		1		4		—	
Smallpox	—											
Acute Encephalitis Infective	—		—									
Post-infectious	—		—		—							
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	—											
Paratyphoid Fevers	1	—					1		—			
Erysipelas	4	—	1		2		1		—		—	
Food Poisoning	7	—	1		4		1		1		—	
Tuberculosis Respiratory	8	—	—		2		6		—		—	
Meninges & C.N.S.	—	—	—								1	
Other	2	—	1		1		—		—		1	
Puerperal Pyrexia	—				—						—	

* The death returns disclosed cases of pneumonia of which this Authority had no record before death.

The township distribution of specified notifiable diseases is set out in tabular form for the year 1960, and for comparison the totals for the preceding four years are given :

Townships.	Scarlet Fever		Dysentery		Measles		Whoop'g Cough	
	Cases notified.	Cases removed.	Cases notified.	Cases removed.	Cases notified.	Cases removed.	Cases notified.	Cases removed.
Barton ...	1	1	...	...	11	...	...	...
Broughton ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Cuerdale ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Dutton ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Farington ...	6	4	27	1	127	...	2	...
Goosnargh ...	2	1	...	...	4	...	2	...
Grimsargh ...	3	1	8	...	5	...	...	...
Haighton ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hothersall ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hutton ...	1	1	...	...	1	...	3	...
Lea ...	3	...	15	...	62	...	2	...
Little Hoole ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Longton ...	4	...	...	...	6	...	...	...
Much Hoole ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Penwortham ...	28	12	37	...	208	...	19	...
Ribchester ...	...	...	...	...	2	...	3	...
Samlesbury ...	5	...	4	...	44	...	...	...
Whittingham ...	...	...	48	45	...	...	...	...
Woodplumpton ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...
1960 TOTAL ...	54	20	140	46	472	...	38	...
1959 TOTAL ...	66	20	138	8	436	...	18	...
1958 TOTAL ...	68	40	110	109	48	...	...	...
1957 TOTAL ...	24	11	36	27	630	...	45	...
1956 TOTAL ...	70	36	111	27	368	...	79	1

TUBERCULOSIS

The scheme for the prevention and treatment of Tuberculosis in the administrative County is administered by the Lancashire County Council and the Manchester Regional Hospitals Board respectively

A number of dispensaries are provided for the diagnosis of the disease, staffed by Chest Physicians and Tuberculosis Health Visitors. These dispensaries work in close association with the Sanatoria, and serve a valuable purpose in the main essence of supervision of patients after their discharge therefrom.

The dispensary for patients residing in the Rural District is situated at 12, Walton's Parade, Preston.

The first table below gives in certain specified age groups the male and female notified cases of respiratory and non-respiratory tuberculosis in the year 1960, together with deaths therefrom.

The second table gives a comparison with the previous five years, but excludes age distribution.

Age Periods. Years	NEW Cases.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
10 ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
15 ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
20 ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25 ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
35 ...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
45 ...	4	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
55 ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
75 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	6	5	2	1	1	...	...	1
	11		3		1		1	

YEAR	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1960	6	5	2	1	1	—	—	1
1959	12	7	1	—	2	—	—	—
1958	14	5	1	3	7	4	—	1
1957	20	15	1	5	7	—	1	—
1956	17	12	2	1	6	1	1	—
1955	20	16	4	5	6	1	1	—

The 14 new cases which were notified to the Department during the year could be classified as occurring amongst (1) permanent residents 8, (2) residents of Whittingham Hospital 3, (3) people transferred into the area 3.

Removals from the register numbered 12 ; 3 patients were transferred to other administrative areas, 2 patients died, and 7 recovered.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY UNIT. The following report combines figures related to surveys carried out at Broughton, Lea and Penwortham by the Mass Radiography Unit of the Manchester Regional Hospitals Board during 1960 :

	Males	Females	Total
Number x-rayed	344	594	938

ABNORMALITIES DISCOVERED

Tuberculosis requiring immediate treatment	—	2	2
Cardio-vascular lesions acquired	2	14	16
Healed tuberculosis	—	4	4
Pulmonary fibrosis	4	1	5
Pleural thickening	1	2	3
Bronchiectasis	—	1	1

National Assistance Act, 1948

(Section 47)

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (Amendment) ACT, 1951

Number of applications made during the year..... Nil
Number of Orders made Nil

SCHOOLS

There are 39 schools in the Rural Area providing facilities for both primary and secondary education, and the sanitary circumstances prevailing at these schools are categorised below, viz :

No. of schools with fresh water closets	38
„ „ „ with chemical closets	1
„ „ „ with drainage to public sewers	18
„ „ „ with drainage to private treatment works	20
„ „ „ with dustbins	39
„ „ „ with water supply from public mains	39
„ „ „ with satisfactory drinking facilities	39
„ „ „ with satisfactory washing facilities	35
„ „ „ with satisfactory yard surfaces	31

NEW LEGISLATION

The following legislation, inter alia, came into force during 1960, except where otherwise stated :

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.
Noise Abatement Act, 1960.
Clean Rivers (Estuaries and Tidal Waters) Act, 1960.
Public Health Laboratory Service Act, 1960 (appointed day).
Population (Statistics) Act, 1960.
Distress for Rates Act, 1960.
Requisitioned Houses Act, 1960.
National Insurance Act, 1960 (appointed day).
Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, 1960 (1/6/61).
Offices Act, 1960 (1/1/62).
Oil Burners (Standards) Act, 1960 (1/1/61).
Corporate Bodies Contracts Act, 1960.
The Meat (Staining and Sterilisation) Regulations, 1960.
Authorised Officers (Meat Inspection) Regulations, 1960.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Since the Food Hygiene Regulations came into force, 147 informal notices have been served to carry out works of improvement, etc., at food premises, and in the majority of cases the occupiers have complied. It would appear, however, that in a number of cases statutory action may become necessary. It has always been the policy to educate rather than to coerce, and if formal action is unavoidable, your officials will regard it with a sense of personal failure. Co-operation of the food trader and consumer is a pre-requisite to clean food on the table.

The following summary gives a general indication of the type of work required by the informal notices and the number of premises involved :

Nature of work	No. of premises
(1) Installation of wash basin with hot and cold water supplies and toilet requisites	96
(2) Installation of sink with hot and cold water supplies and washing utensil requisites	32
(3) Provision of hot water supply to sink or wash basin	14
(4) Repairs and improvements to premises and fixtures	74
(5) Cleansing of premises	34
(6) Provision of adequate ventilation	30
(7) Provision of first-aid equipment	19
(8) Provision of suitable food store	9
(9) Provision of storage accommodation for utensils	4

In addition, 31 visits were made to slaughterhouses for the purpose of meat inspection, and other functions during the year included the sampling of milk and the inspection of dairies.

The following list gives the number of food premises, by type of business, in the district at the end of the year under review :

Type of Business	No.
General grocers and provision dealers	97
Greengrocers and fruiterers (incl. those selling wet fish, game, etc.)	18
Fishmongers (incl. those selling poultry, game, etc.)	2
Meat shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe, etc.)	19
Bakers and/or confectioners	32
Fried fish shops	15
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice cream, etc.	39
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar catering establishments	96
Others	14
Total	332

The number of food premises, by type, registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and Section 14 of the Lancashire County Council's (General Powers) Act, 1951, are as follows :

Type of business	Act	No.
Ice cream	Section 16, F. and D., 1955	141
Preserved food, etc.	ditto.	11
Hawkers' premises	Section 14, L.C.C. Act, 1951	16

One hundred and thirty-nine of the ice cream premises are used for the storage and sale of pre-packed ice cream manufactured outside the district.

CASES OF FOOD POISONING. The notified incidence of food poisoning was less than in the previous year, with seven cases recorded as against 12. Three were single cases and four comprised a family outbreak, particulars of which are given hereunder.

Notifications were received on Tuesday, April 5th, that four members of a family of five (father, mother, son and two daughters, aged 8 and 13 years), residing in the parish of Penwortham, were suffering from food poisoning. An immediate visit was made to the household and the following brief case history was ascertained.

Onset of the outbreak occurred on Monday, March 28th, when the youngest daughter suffered from vomiting, abdominal pains and diarrhoea. Apparently by week-end she had recovered, but on Monday, April 4th, these symptoms again occurred, and on the same day the father, mother and eldest daughter had a severe attack of the same symptoms. The son was unaffected.

Detailed enquiries failed to determine the vehicle of infection, and faeces specimens taken from all members of the family gave negative results.

The patients quickly recovered their normal health.

. MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

The following table shows the numbers of certain classes of animals killed in the Rural Area during 1960, together with the number and result of the inspections carried out :

	Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known) ...	6	12	1	105	13	...
Number inspected	6	12	1	105	13	...
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned...	...	7	...	5	3	...
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	...	59	...	5	25	...
Tuberculosis only.						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	...	...	..	...	...	...
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cysticercosis						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration	...	..	...	...	...	..
Generalised and totally con- demned	...	...	...	...	..	...

The unsound carcase meat, approximately $1\frac{1}{3}$ cwt. in weight, was burnt at the slaughterhouses.

The amount of food surrendered as unfit for human consumption at shops, etc., was $116\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Wherever possible the food was diverted for animal feeding. The protection of the public in regard to the food which they consume is an important duty of the District Public Health Inspector. Powers exist for food which is not in a sound and wholesome condition to be seized and taken before a magistrate for condemnation. It was not necessary to take such action during 1960 because the purveyors concerned voluntarily surrendered the food which was unfit for human consumption for a certificate issued by the District Public Health Inspector, which enables them to obtain credit from the firm who supplied the food.

SAMPLING—FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Samples were taken by the Sampling Officers of the County Public Health Department, which is the authority responsible for the administration of the Act in this respect. Given below are the particulars of the sampling and the results.

A total of 213 samples was obtained, consisting of 125 samples of milk (one of which was a sample of Channel Islands milk) and 88 others, comprising :

2 Fruit curd	3 Boric acid B.P.
4 White pepper	1 Low sugar jam
2 Pork sausages	1 Pork sausages, canned
2 Compound codeine tablets	1 Double cream
1 Catarrh tablets	1 Gravy browning
2 Castor oil B.P.	1 Caster sugar
2 Fish, canned	1 Epsom Salts B.P.
4 Fruit, dried	1 Mixed grill, canned
1 Tea extract	2 Pudding mixture, sweetened
1 Olive oil	1 Demerara sugar
3 Salad cream	5 Vegetables, canned
2 Lemon cheese	4 Edible cake decorations
3 Barley	1 Orange and lemon jelly slices
1 Borax B.P.	1 British sherry (sweetmeat)
2 Boracid powder B.P.	1 British ruby wine
3 Health salts	1 British cream sherry
3 Fruit, canned	1 Australian ruby wine
1 Cornflour	1 Brandy
1 Sulphur ointment	2 Whisky
1 Sulphur ointment B.P.	2 Rum
2 Zinc ointment B.P.	1 Gin
2 Vegetables, dried	2 Margarine
2 Jam	1 Dripping
3 Oatmeal	2 Sweets

In addition, four appeal-to-cow samples of milk were obtained during the year.

I give below details of the samples upon which the County Analyst gave adverse reports .

<i>Type of Sample</i>	<i>Results of Analysis</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
1 Lemon cheese	Soluble solids 63.2%. No declaration of net weight on label.	Vendor interviewed. Weights & Measures Inspector informed.
1 Informal milk	Fat 2.80%. Deficient 6.6% fat.	Producer notified.
1 Informal milk	Fat 2.90%. Deficient 3.3% fat.	Producer notified.
1 Zinz ointment B.P.	Contained 13.7% zinc oxide. B.P. limits 14.0–16.0 %.	Vendor and manufacturer communicated with.
1 Formal milk	Fat 2.90%. Deficient 3.3% fat.	Producer notified.
1 Oatmeal	Contained a live flour moth grub with webbing.	Remaining stock checked for infestation.
1 Pork sausages, canned	Contained only 9% meat. Poor in meat.	Manufacturers communicated with.
1 Lemon cheese	No name of food, no name and address of packer, no declaration of net weight. Soluble solids by refractometer only 60.4%.	Packer interviewed.
1 Formal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 1.8% of extraneous water.	Producer cautioned and further sample obtained.
1 Formal milk	Deficient 6.6% fat, contained 15.1% extraneous water.	Legal proceedings were instituted against the producer, who was fined £20 and ordered to pay £7 costs.
1 Formal milk	Contained 2.3% extraneous water.	
1 Formal milk	Contained 8.5% extraneous water.	
1 Formal milk	Contained 8.5% extraneous water.	
1 Dripping	Contained 2.7% free fatty acids. Should not contain more than 1.5%.	Vendor notified.

PERCENTAGE OF ADULTERATION OF SAMPLES OF FOOD & DRUGS

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total No. of samples</i>	<i>No. of adulterated samples</i>	<i>Percentage of adulteration</i>
1956	204	6	2.9
1957	227	7	3.0
1958	212	7	3.3
1959	220	9	4.0
1960	213	14	6.5

Water Supplies

The two major sources of water distribution in the Rural District are the Preston and District Water Board and the Fylde Water Board, and these supplies are controlled at the source by both chemical and bacteriological tests. In addition, however, officials of the Council take routine samples from domestic taps in the various townships and the Boards are immediately made aware of any unsatisfactory results.

The Preston and District Water Board supply a population of approximately 35,000 and the Fylde Water Board 5,000.

The here inserted table gives a series of figures indicating the water situation in the several townships. Where houses are not receiving a laid-on supply, the explanation is, the non-supplied premises are situated a very long way from the mains :

Parish	No. of houses newly connected to public mains supply during 1960		From Public Mains				From Private Supplies, <i>e.g.</i> wells, springs, etc.	
			Direct to houses		By means of standpipe			
	Existing houses	New houses	No. of dwelling houses	Estimtd. No. of population	No. of dwelling houses	Estimated No. of population	No. of dwelling houses	Estimated No. of population
Barton ...	...	34	417	1247	...	...	8	23
Broughton ...	...	3	180	524	...	...	...	...
Cuerdale ...	...	...	10	32	...	...	...	...
Dutton ...	...	1	7	21	...	...	56	167
Farington ...	...	3	1446	4330	...	...	...	...
Goosnargh ...	...	11	281	842	...	...	37	110
Grimsargh ...	...	6	256	765	...	...	...	...
Haighton ...	...	...	65	192	...	...	4	11
Hothersall ...	...	...	40	118	...	...	4	12
Hutton ...	...	10	448	1447	...	...	...	...
Lea ...	...	36	1044	3102	...	...	2	6
Little Hoole ...	...	...	224	658	...	...	...	...
Longton ...	...	49	1275	3805	...	...	...	...
Much Hoole ...	...	1	231	688	...	...	2	7
Penwortham ...	...	217	5000	14658	...	...	...	...
Ribchester ...	...	1	438	1300	...	...	16	47
Samlesbury ...	...	1	350	1031	...	...	17	52
Whittingham ...	...	1	443	4321	...	...	44	130
Woodplumpton ...	...	5	474	1412	...	...	46	142
TOTAL Whole District	...	379	12669	40493	...	...	236	707

Housing

The following table categorises the present position with regard to the Housing Waiting List, and gives the number of applicants in each parish, the type of accommodation required, and the number of agricultural applicants :

Parish	Houses	Flats	Total
Farington	8	7	15
Grimsargh	3	1	4
Hutton	—	3	3
Lea	3	4	7
Little Hoole	—	1	1
Longton	2	4	6
Penwortham	5	14	19
Ribchester	1	2	3
Whittingham	3	1	4
Woodplumpton	1	3	4
Total on General List	26	40	66
Total of agricultural applicants	5	—	5
Grand Total	31	40	71

Fifty-nine families were re-housed in existing Council houses which became available for re-letting during 1960, and, considering this figure in conjunction with the demand illustrated by the above table, it is apparent that annual voids are occurring at a sufficient rate to meet general needs. The rate at 4.6% of occupied houses was more than the previous year's figure by 0.4%.

The completion of the special housing unit for aged persons at Penwortham is a commendable effort by the Council to meet the urgent and growing need for this type of accommodation. The residents are highly appreciative of the housing and social facilities provided, and this is a most encouraging and rewarding feature.

Construction commenced on 46 houses and 8 flats for the housing of overspill population from the Preston C.B., and 10 houses being built at Woodplumpton for slum clearance purposes were nearing completion at the year end.

A remarkable aspect of the period under review was the substantial increase in private housing development occasioned principally by the completion of new large sewerage schemes opening up additional areas of land for development. Altogether, 356 houses were completed by private enterprise and a further 8 houses by the Lancashire County Council for the Police Constabulary at Hutton.

The total number of inhabited houses in the Rural District now stands at 12,905, and the following table analyses this total by age :

Not more than 10 years old	2,720
Between 10 and 20 years old	1,071
Between 20 and 30 years old	3,825
Between 30 and 40 years old	2,620
Over 40 years old	2,669

HOUSING PROGRESS

1945 to 1960

The following Tables show (1) schemes completed, (2) schemes in progress, and (3) schemes contemplated :

(1)

Scheme	No. of dwellings
Penwortham and Farington	22
Woodplumpton	16
Lea	40
Woodville Street, Farington	12
School Street, Farington	10
Penwortham	52
Barton	40
Samlesbury	16
Grimsargh	22
Woodplumpton	8
Little Hoole	24
Much Hoole	24
Goosnargh	28
Longton	29
Ribchester	22
Sycamore Farm, Penwortham—1st Contract	80
New Longton	36
Sycamore Farm, Penwortham—2nd Contract	38
Coote Lane, Farington—1st Contract	18
Airey Rural Houses	84
Sycamore Farm, Penwortham—3rd Contract	36
Nabs Head Lane, Samlesbury	30
Stanifield Lane, Farington	28
Kingsfold Estate, Penwortham, 1st Contract	50
Kingsfold Estate, Penwortham—2nd Contract	50
Sycamore Farm, Penwortham—4th Contract	80
Kingsfold Estate, Penwortham—3rd Contract	54
Coote Lane, Farington—2nd Contract	106
Studholme Estate, Penwortham—1st Contract	76
Studholme Estate, Penwortham—2nd Contract	58
Shops and Flats, Kingsfold Estate, Penwortham	6
Kingsfold Estate, Penwortham—4th Contract	54
Studholme Estate, Penwortham—3rd Contract	29
Total	1,278

(2)

		Dwellings	
		Under	Not yet
	Completed	Construction	Started
Woodplumpton	—	10	—
Kingsfold Estate, Penwortham—5th Contract	—	54	—

(3)

	No. of dwellings
Kingsfold Estate, Penwortham—6th Contract	76
Barton	26

OVERSPILL

Altogether, 208 houses and flats have been erected in the Kingsfold Development Area in the parish of Penwortham and occupied by overspill population from the Preston C.B. Forty-six houses and eight flats are under construction, and 50 dwellings for this purpose are scheduled for erection during 1961.

OTHER HOUSING

In addition to Council houses, houses have been constructed by the Lancashire County Council, Ministry of Works, Kingsway Housing Association (formed by The English Electric Co.), Manchester Regional Hospitals Board, and Private Builders.

As far as other housing is concerned, the position at the 31st December, 1960, was as follows :

Constructed by	Completed	Dwellings	
		Under Construction	Not yet Started
Lancashire County Council	124	—	—
Ministry of Works	208	—	—
Kingsway Housing Association	250	—	—
Blackburn C.B.	2	—	—
Preston C.B.	1	—	—
Manchester Regional Hospitals Board	15	—	—
Private Builders	1,807	233	269
	<u>2,407</u>	<u>233</u>	<u>269</u>

UNFIT HOUSES

A comprehensive statement on the Council's provisional slum clearance programme is included in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report, and in order to avoid repetition, the statistics produced hereafter relate only to the year under review.

Houses demolished

1. In clearance areas	Nil
2. Not in clearance areas	Nil
3. No. of displaced persons re-housed	1

Unfit houses closed

1. Under Sections 16 (4), 17 (1), and 35 (1), Housing Act, 1957, ...	2
2. No. of displaced persons re-housed	Nil

Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied

1. By owners after informal action by local authority	18
2. By local authority after formal notice under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957	Nil

Unfit houses in temporary use (Housing Act, 1957)

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. No. of houses at the end of the year retained for temporary accommodation under Sections 48, 17 (2) and 46 | Nil |
| 2. No. of houses licensed for temporary occupation under sections 34 or 53 | Nil |

Purchase of houses by agreement

- | | |
|--|-----|
| No. of houses in clearance areas, other than those included in confirmed clearance orders or compulsory purchase orders, purchased during the year | Nil |
|--|-----|

Houses improved by grant-aid under the Housing Act, 1949, etc.

Number of schemes submitted :

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. By local authority to Ministry | Nil |
| 2. By private individuals to the local authority | 10 |
| (a) No. of dwelling-houses or other buildings affected | 10 |
| (b) No. of schemes completed during the year | 8 |
| (c) Additional separate dwellings included in the completed schemes | Nil |

Houses provided with certain standard amenities under the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959

- | | |
|--|----|
| No. of schemes submitted to the local authority | 54 |
| No. of dwellings or other buildings affected by such schemes | 56 |
| No. of schemes approved | 56 |
| No. of schemes completed during the year | 30 |

Sewage Disposal

There are outfall works in five townships, viz. : Broughton, Farington, Longton, Penwortham and Ribchester. In addition, Grimsargh and areas of Lea and Samlesbury are sewered to outfalls outside the district.

The several comprehensive schemes of sewerage recently completed or in the process of completion have greatly improved the sewage situation in the Rural Area, and the following table indicates the present position in the various parishes.

The population figure of 4,451 for the parish of Whittingham includes some 3,000 patients and resident staff of the Whittingham Hospital, which has its own sewage treatment works. Accordingly, the total population figure given in the right-hand column of the table would be more accurately quoted at 10,347.

Parish	Connected to Public Sewer		Septic Tank, etc.	
	No. of Dwelling houses	No. of Population	No. of Dwelling houses	No. of Population
Barton ...	94	280	331	990
Broughton ...	52	154	128	370
Cuerdale ...	...	...	10	32
Dutton ...	...	...	63	188
Farington ...	1215	3640	231	690
Goosnargh ...	...	...	318	952
Grimsargh ...	212	635	44	130
Haighton ...	...	...	69	203
Hothersall ...	...	...	44	130
Hutton ...	365	1085	123	362
Lea ...	820	2440	226	668
Little Hoole ...	112	332	112	326
Longton ...	1144	3416	132	389
Much Hoole ...	...	...	233	695
Penwortham ...	4985	14616	15	42
Ribchester ...	304	905	149	442
Samlesbury ...	118	350	249	733
Whittingham ...	...	..	487	4451
Woodplumpton ...	...	...	520	1554
TOTAL Whole District	9421	27853	3484	13347

Factories Acts, 1937 to 1959

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the Year 1960, for the Rural District of Preston in the County of Lancaster

Most of the factories in the Rural Area are of a small character and chiefly consist of those relating to Motor Car Repairs and Confectionery. There are, however, four Cotton Mills at Farington and Ribchester, two Paper Mills at Samlesbury, and two small Iron Foundries at Whittingham. In addition, and in recent times, two large modern and well-equipped factories have been erected at Farington, occupied by Messrs. Leyland Motors Ltd. and the B.T.R. Industries Ltd.

Sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction recorded on the register under Section 1 (iii) of the Report were, with the exception of six, established sites at the commencement of the year complying with the requirements of Section 7.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937 Part I of the Act

1—INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	2	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	106	12	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority † (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	19	6	—	—
TOTAL ...	127	18	—	—

2—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	—	—	—	—	—

Part VIII—Sections 110 and 111

Number of Outworkers in August List required by Section 110 (1) (c), 1 Wearing Apparel (making, etc.).

J. WALKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

Chief Public Health Inspector's Report

To the Chairman and Members of the Preston Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In presenting to you my Annual Report on departmental functions, it is pleasing to record that 1960 was a year of progress in many spheres.

The environmental circumstances of the resident population necessitate constant supervision and improvement of amenities generally, and a comprehensive study of the statistical data and other subject matter presented reveals that these requirements were satisfactorily fulfilled.

Summarised and routine references to principal functions are given in the text, but such matters as Housing, Public Cleansing, Sewerage and Slaughtering Facilities call for more specific comment.

1—HOUSING.

An interesting feature of the housing accommodation available in the district is that only about 21 per cent. is over 40 years old. These old dwelling-houses obviously require the special attention of your Officers under the provisions of the Housing Acts, and since 1945, 844 such houses have been either demolished, closed, converted to other uses, reconstructed, improved or repaired and provided with standard amenities.

2—PUBLIC CLEANSING.

With the adoption of the recommendations set out in my special report providing, *inter alia*, for two additional vehicles, it was hoped that the service would be much improved, but unfortunately the shortage of suitable labour, associated with a high rate of staff change-over and our inability to obtain sufficient and suitable tipping sites near to urbanised localities, prevented the anticipated improvement from being wholly realised. These factors are likely to operate for the foreseeable future, and with the reduction in the working week from 44 to 42 hours and rapidly-expanding private housing development, an additional vehicle with crew will have to be employed if a weekly collection is to be attained and maintained. Works have commenced on the extension and alterations to the existing depot premises to provide for additional garage accommodation, a new mechanic's workshop, a storeroom, general foreman's office, and a combined meals and clothes hanging and drying room for the staff, and these facilities should soon be available. The Council has also decided to install a power-operated baling machine in the building at the Penwortham Sewage Works, with the main objects of stepping up the sale of waste paper and overcoming labour difficulties.

3—SEWERAGE.

Works on the final phase of the Longton and District scheme are well advanced and the entire scheme is nearing completion. 1,371 houses have now been connected to the public sewers, and the recorded flow at the Sewage Treatment Plant shows that a maximum of 266,000 gallons per day has passed through the plant

for full treatment. A substantial number of private closet conversions in the area sewered by this scheme have been carried out by householders with the aid of a Council grant. Works were commenced on a comprehensive scheme of sewerage to serve the parishes of Barton, Broughton, Goosnargh, together with small areas of Whittingham and Woodplumpton, and also parts of the parishes of Bilsborrow and Myerscough in the Garstang R.D. A prolonged period of inclement weather retarded progress to some extent, but, nevertheless, substantial lengths of sewers were laid. An investigation is now in progress, by Consulting Engineers, of the existing sewerage facilities in the parish of Penwortham, and their report on the need for relief sewers and provision of adequate treatment works should be available early in the new year. Improvement works to existing installations are in progress and will be completed as quickly as circumstances will allow.

4—SLAUGHTERING FACILITIES.

In accordance with the provisions of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, the Slaughterhouse Reports (Appointed Day) Order, 1959, and the Slaughterhouse (Reports) Direction, 1959, a comprehensive report was prepared, on behalf of the Council, and submitted to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on the 29th March, 1960. The report dealt, inter alia, with the existing and probable future requirements of the Rural District for slaughterhouse facilities. Existing slaughtering facilities comprise a private slaughterhouse at Little Hoole and a special slaughterhouse at the Whittingham Hospital which is administered by the Regional Hospitals Board on behalf of the Crown. Applications for new slaughterhouse licences were received from two meat traders for premises at Farington and Longton. The Report recommended that the Minister should fix the 1st day of January, 1962, as the appointed date for the Construction Regulations to apply to slaughterhouses.

In conclusion, I would like to express to the members of the Council, and in particular to the Committee, my thanks for their interest in the work of the department and for their continued support and encouragement, and to pay tribute to the staff for the efficient manner in which they have carried out their duties.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. H. COUPERTHWAITE,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' VISITS

Inspection of dwelling houses	102
Insanitary drainage	323
Fouled watercourses	47
Middens	12
Dirty condition of premises	18
Other visits relating to nuisances	41
Infectious disease	267
Verminous premises and persons	2
Waste Foods Order	12
Milk and Dairies	140

Food premises	224
Shops	145
Factories	18
Caravans	65
Schools	13
Hotels, Inns, etc.	4
Ice-cream premises	47
Hawkers	2
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	68
Housing Acts—Discretionary and Standard Grants	463
Clean Air Act	7
Closet conversions	162
Pet Animals Act	1
Petroleum Act	96
Water supply	15
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection	31
Knacker's Yard	2
Diseases of Animals	3
Housing applications	63
Rent Act	22
Other visits	233
	2,648

NOTICES

Informal	89
Formal	6

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Disinfection was carried out in the following cases of infectious disease :

Scarlet Fever	2
---------------------	---

In addition, 267 visits were made relating to Infectious disease, principally in connection with outbreaks of Food Poisoning and Sonne Dysentery.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

At the end of 1960 the position in the Rural District as regards sanitary conveniences belonging to inhabited houses was :

No. of Fresh Water Closets	11,935
No. of Waste Water Closets	144
No. of Pail Closets	776
No. of Privy Middens	50

The old bog closets and pail closets exist mainly in the outlying parishes and in the scattered areas.

The following conversions took place, and new sanitary accommodation was provided during 1960 :

No. of Pail Closets to Fresh W.C.s	154
No. of Waste Water Closets to Fresh W.C.s	8

OTHER SANITARY DEFECTS DEALT WITH

Dampness	16
Defective Ceilings	4
Defective Closet Pails	2
Defective Closet Structures	1
Defective Doors	6
Defective Floors	5
Defective Gutters	13
Defective Paving	3
Defective Downspouts	3
Defective Roofs	15
Defective Chimneys	3
Defective Pointing	3
Defective Walls	11
Defective Brickwork	2
Defective W.C.s	6
Defective Windows	15
Defective Woodwork	2
Defective Fire Ranges	2
Absence of Washing Facilities	2
Insanitary Drainage	100
Fouled Watercourses	47
Dirty Condition of Premises	18
Middens	12
Defective Sink Waste Pipes	2
Defective Sinks	2

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The domestic and trade refuse collection service now extends to 12,462 inhabited dwellings out of a total of 12,905 ; those at present outside the scope of the service are generally situated in remote rural localities.

A fleet of 12 refuse loaders employed for this purpose is gradually being converted to diesel fuel operation in order to economise in running costs.

Disposal of refuse takes place at three tips, where a system of partially controlled tipping is supervised by full-time tipmen.

The following table shows the amount of work performed by the refuse loaders from January 1st to December 31st, 1960 :

Vehicle	Type	Mileage	Petrol/ Diesel (galls.)	Oil (quarts)	Loads (number)	Estimated weight of refuse in tons	Miles per gallon
E R.N.987 (petrol)	Fordson	... 10041	... 1349	... 66	... 436	... 562	7.44
G.C.K.226 (petrol)	Fordson	... 6316	... 828	... 53	... 356	... 744	7.62
G.R.N.212 (diesel)	Fordson	... 10383	... 724	... 109	... 617	... 1289	14.34
J.C.K.73 (diesel)	Fordson	... 8051	... 558	... 73	... 725	... 1506	14.25
J.R.N.713 (diesel)	Fordson	... 10950	... 640	... 59	... 752	... 1546	17.10
J.R.N.816 (diesel)	Fordson	... 12967	... 696	... 58	... 947	... 1952	18.63
K.R.N.758 (diesel)	Fordson	... 9980	... 650	... 68	... 629	... 1134	15.36
M.C.K.631 (diesel)	Fordson	... 12134	... 666	... 57	... 662	... 1374	18.22
M.C.K.632 (diesel)	Fordson	... 9878	... 607	... 28	... 635	... 1303	16.27
M.R.N.408 (diesel)	Fordson	... 9500	... 497	... 14	... 729	... 1499	19.11
O.R.N.433 (diesel)	Fordson	... 2576	... 157	... 1	... 223	... 481	16.41
O.R.N.434 (diesel)	Fordson	... 2874	... 172	... 2	... 185	... 393	16.70
Totals		...105650	... 7544	... 598	... 6896	... 13783	14.00

SALVAGE

The following table gives the weight and cash value of materials salvaged during the year 1960 :

Materials	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Mixed Paper	415	11	1	0	3116	13	2
Newspaper	44	16	1	0	380	17	11
Mixed Rags	8	3	0	7	115	3	2
Rolled Aluminium	—	12	3	9	84	14	2
Mixed Metals (cast)	—	—	2	4	—	11	9
Mixed Brass	—	6	2	0	40	4	6
Lead Scrap	—	3	1	20	10	4	2
Braziery Copper	—	3	2	9	31	4	6
Carpets	—	5	0	14	1	0	6
String	—	7	1	0	1	16	3
Scrap Batteries	—	6	3	10	6	5	5
Totals	470	16	2	17	£3,788	15	6

SLAUGHTERHOUSES ACT, 1958

Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1954 to 1958.

Thirty-four licences for Slaughtermen were issued.

There is one licensed Slaughterhouse and one licensed Knacker's Yard in the district. The premises are frequently visited and any recommendations made are usually carried out without undue delay.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

The Lancashire River Board has jurisdiction in regard to river and stream pollution over the whole of the rural area.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

There are outfall works at Broughton, Farington, Longton, Penwortham and Ribchester. In addition, Grimsargh and areas of Lea and Samlesbury are sewered to outfalls outside the district.

9,421 inhabited houses out of a total of 12,905 are connected to the public sewer, and during 1960 there were 1,371 existing houses and 283 new houses so connected.

Works were commenced on Phase 4 of the Longton and District Sewerage Scheme to include the parishes of Little Hoole and Much Hoole and an area of the parish of Farington, and also on a new scheme for Barton, Broughton, Goosnargh, including small areas of Whittingham and Woodplumpton.

The District Public Health Inspectors made 323 visits with regard to complaints of insanitary drainage and for the purpose of drain testing, and 47 visits in connection with fouled watercourses.

SWIMMING POOLS

There are two privately-owned swimming pools in the district which are open to members of certain special organisations.

Chlorination and infiltration plants are installed and are efficiently supervised by trained staff. The water, which is obtained from the public main, is changed in one instance every four hours, and in the other every five to six hours. Highly satisfactory bacteriological results have been obtained.

The Council gave preliminary consideration to the provision of a public swimming baths chiefly for the large urbanised locality of Fenwortham, but decided to defer the matter until the time was more opportune.

HOUSING ACTS, 1936 to 1957

The Council's Provisional Slum Clearance Programme, submitted to the Minister on the 11th November, 1955, comprised 266 dwelling houses, 115 of which it was intended to deal with by way of Clearance Orders and 151 by individual Demolition Orders.

Following representation by certain owners to have their properties removed from the original programme, and after consideration of the representations by the Council, a revised programme was submitted to the Minister on the 21st October, 1958, and approved. The revised programme comprised 201 dwelling houses, 53 to be dealt with by Clearance Orders and 148 by individual Demolition Orders.

As a result of action already taken by the Council and informal action by certain owners, the present position is as follows :

1. No. of dwelling houses dealt with formally	93	
2. No. of dwelling houses dealt with informally	11	
	—	104
3. No. of dwelling houses where action is deferred for special reasons	62	
4. No. of dwelling houses where action is to be taken	35	
	—	97
		—
		201
		—

Modernisation of older houses

Since the inception of the Government scheme to provide discretionary grant-aid to owners of rented houses and owner-occupiers, and more recently standard grant-aid for the installation of certain standard amenities, the Council has endeavoured, directly and indirectly, through various channels of communication, to encourage owners of sub-standard accommodation to take advantage of the liberal amount of financial assistance which can be obtained.

The Council has given nearly £17,000 in discretionary grant-aid in connection with completed modernisation schemes for 86 dwellings, and just over £5,000 where standard amenities have been installed in 52 dwellings. There are, however, many more properties in the Rural Area which lack the essential amenities necessary in the modern concept of a satisfactory housing environment.

Progress is altogether too slow, and although recent publicity has resulted in a slight increase in the rate at which applications have previously been received, there is no doubt that further legislation will be required to ensure that every house is provided with these essential amenities within a reasonable time.

SLUM CLEARANCE

Action taken with regard to the administration of the Housing Acts, 1936 to 1957.

The following table shows action taken in the various Parishes in the Rural District with regard to slum clearance from 1945 to 1960 inclusive :

PARISH.			HOUSES.						
			Demolished. or closed		Undertakings accepted following formal action.		Voluntary action by owners.		Scheduled for demolition.
			Form- ally.	Inform- ally.	Not to be used for human habitation.	Re-construction	Re-construction or conversion to other use	Not to be used for human habitation.	
Barton	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	...
Broughton	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cuerdale	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dutton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Farington	...	...	26	3	...	I	...	...	...
Goosnargh	...	...	I	...	I	...	...	...	...
Grimsargh	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	...
Haighton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hothersall	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Hutton	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	I
Lea	...	...	9	2	I	I	...	...	...
Little Hoole	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...
Longton	...	...	8	3	4	4	...	...	2
Much Hoole	...	...	4	...	...	2	...	I	2
Penwortham	...	...	43	7	3	2	2	...	...
Ribchester	...	...	9	...	I	2	...	...	...
Samlesbury	...	...	9	3	...	I	...	...	...
Whittingham...	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	...
Woodplumpton	...	...	16	4	5	2	...	...	...
TOTALS	...	...	130	23	17	18	2	I	5

RENT ACT, 1957

Part I—Applications for Certificates of Disrepair

(1) Number of applications for certificates	1
(2) Number of decisions not to issue certificates	Nil
(3) Number of decisions to issue certificates	1
(a) In respect of some but not all defects	1
(b) In respect of all defects	Nil
(4) Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	Nil
(5) Number of undertakings refused under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	Nil
(6) Number of certificates issued	1

Part II—Applications for Cancellation of Certificates

(7) Applications by landlords for cancellation of certificates	3
(8) Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates	2
(9) Decisions to cancel in spite of tenant's objection	1
(10) Certificates cancelled	2

PETROLEUM ACTS

No. of new licences granted for storing petrol during the year—1.

No. of renewal licences granted during the year—103.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES, ETC.

There are no common lodging houses or houses let in lodgings on the Register.

CARAVANS

Under the provisions of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, the Council is responsible for the issue of site licences, and Section 5 provides for conditions to be imposed necessary to secure, inter alia, a high environmental standard both as regards the site and the caravans stationed thereon.

An acute problem is the regular influx of caravans occupied by traders indulging in dubious business activities parked more often than not on grass verges of private roads. Considerable pressure had to be exerted to get them to move on, and invariably large quantities of litter had to be cleared. There are, however, a considerable number of responsible caravanners requiring permanent accommodation within the Rural District, and if the intentions of the Act are to be secured, suitable and sufficient licensed sites will have to be made available.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

The number of shops on the register has risen to 316, and in accordance with the delegated scheme of duties, 145 reports were prepared and submitted to the Lancashire County Council. Infringements of the Act related mainly to the absence of necessary records where young persons were employed.

RAG FLOCK ACTS

There are no premises in the District on which rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

No consent has been given by the Local Authority for the establishment of any offensive trade in the rural area.

CANAL BOATS

There have been no inspections carried out during the year.

CLEAN AIR

It is the practice when plans are deposited with the Council which indicate a proposal to install a new furnace in a building, to immediately inform the applicant of the appropriate provisions of the Clean Air Act. Particulars are requested of the type of furnace with its rated output, the maximum heating load to which it will be subjected, and the type of fuel to be used. The applicant is also advised of the required height of an associated chimney. Since the passing of the Act, 16 installations appropriate to the provisions of Section 3 have been accorded prior approval.

Managements of industrial concerns have, in most cases, shown a willingness to co-operate with the Council in an effort to reduce the emission of smoke from industrial chimneys, and recent improvements include (1) the installation of a travelling grate stoker in lieu of hand firing, and (2) the replacement of a furnace giving rise to a serious nuisance by a new oil-fired annealing furnace. In this particular case, an annual certificate of exemption had been issued since the coming into force of the Act. The boiler plant of certain firms, however, is not of the required standard, and they will have to give urgent consideration to the installation of suitable plant before the appropriate provisions of the Act become fully effective in 1963.

Continuing discussions have been held with the Regional Alkali Inspector in regard to the emission of grit from the chimneys of the Penwortham Electricity Generating Station in an effort to secure further improvements and the final elimination of this problem. There is also a small industrial plant in the same parish which occasionally gives rise to a nuisance, and, following several interviews with the owner, consideration is now being given to the installation of a new and almost smokeless type of furnace for steam raising at these works. When the problem of industrial air pollution in Penwortham is resolved, the time will be opportune to consider the establishment of smoke control areas, bearing in mind especially such areas which will exist along the eastern boundary of the parish in the Preston C.B.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk supply—action taken with regard to :

The administration of the Milk and Dairies Acts and Regulations and the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

At the 31st December, 1960, there were 53 registered milk distributors in the area, operating from :

(a) dairies in the district	22
(b) shops in the district other than dairies	31

The number of dairies on the register was seven, and generally the standard was found to be satisfactory.

In addition, and as far as unofficial records show, there were 98 producer-retailers operating in the Rural Area.

The following dealers' licences (including supplementary licences) have been issued during the period under review :

(i) The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949-54	
Tuberculin Tested Milk	54
(ii) The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949-53	
Pasteurised Milk	57
Sterilised Milk	43

There was no refusal or revocation of a licence for graded milk during the year.

MILK SAMPLING

Type of milk and test	No. of samples	Results				
		Negative	Positive	Equivocal	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
(a) Raw Milk						
(1) Tuberculosis	14	14	—	—	—	—
(2) Brucellosis	528	309	119	100	—	—
(3) Methylene Blue reductase test	20	—	—	—	16	4
(4) B. Coli examination	Nil	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Heat Treated Milk						
(1) Tuberculosis	Nil	—	—	—	—	—
“ Pasteurised ”						
(2) Phosphatase test	10	—	—	—	10	—
(3) Methylene Blue reductase test	9	—	—	—	6	3
“ Sterilised ”						
(4) Turbidity test	2	—	—	—	2	—

The 119 positive Brucellosis samples included 61 positive to the milk ring test, 50 to the culture test, and 8 to the biological test. Ten producers of milk were involved and they were immediately made aware of the positive culture and biological results, advised to have their milk pasteurised and to enlist the services of a veterinary surgeon. It was made clear that the local authority would render all possible assistance, including the taking of individual cow samples. Formal action to prohibit the sale of milk unless heat treated had not to be taken, due to the co-operation received from the producers concerned.

TUBERCULOSIS ORDER, 1938

Fourteen samples of milk taken in the district and tested for the presence of tubercle bacilli were all reported as negative, and no notifications were received from other local authorities that milk produced in the area had been found to contain tubercle bacilli.

FOOD PREMISES

Two hundred and twenty-four visits were made to food premises, principally in connection with informal notices served on occupiers requiring works of improvement to be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955. Ten informal notices were served during the period under review.

Eighteen new registrations were approved for the storage and sale of loose or pre-packed ice cream manufactured outside the district, and 47 visits were made to the premises concerned. One hundred and thirty-nine premises are now registered for this purpose, and, in addition, there are two where ice cream is manufactured and sold. Manufacturers and retailers are regularly advised, which helps to secure the sale of a clean and satisfactory product to the consumer.

HAWKERS

Hawkers of Meat, or Meat Food Products, Fish, Fruit and Vegetables, and their premises situate in the Rural Area, are registered under Section 14 of the Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951.

No. of registered hawkers	33
No. of registered premises	16

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

The amount of food surrendered as unfit for human consumption at shops, etc., was 116lbs. Wherever possible, food condemned in this way is diverted to animal feeding.

The number of carcasses of animals inspected at the slaughterhouse was :

Cattle (excluding cows)	6
Cows	12
Calves	1
Pigs	13
Sheep and Lambs	105

and the following meat was condemned as unfit for human consumption :

5 sheep livers for distomatosis ;
7 cows' livers for distomatosis ;
2 parts of pigs' legs for bruising ;
1 part of pig's leg for abscess.

Approximate total weight of meat condemned : 1½cwts.

PARKS AND PLAYING FIELDS

The following schedule gives particulars of the Playing Fields provided in the Rural District and an indication of the area in each field available for games :

Situation	Whole area	Area for games	Area let off for Grazing	Ploughing
Barton	5	5	—	—
Broughton	5	5	—	—
Church Wood, Penwortham	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	—	—
Farington	$10\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{1}{2}$	5	—
Goosnargh	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	—	—
Grimsargh	12	12	—	—
Hurst Grange, Penwortham	$16\frac{1}{2}$	12	$4\frac{1}{2}$	—
Hutton	7	7	—	—
Lea	$16\frac{1}{2}$	4	$12\frac{1}{2}$	—
Little Hoole	4	4	—	—
Longton	6	6	—	—
Much Hoole	5	5	—	—
New Longton	9	9	—	—
Queensway, Penwortham	5	5	—	—
Penwortham Hall	$18\frac{1}{2}$	$12\frac{1}{2}$	6	—
Tardy Gate	$5\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{1}{2}$	—	—
Woodplumpton	$6\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	4	—
Total	141	109	32	—

The work of the Department during the period under review included, in addition to a great deal of maintenance work, the mowing of grass verges on the Council's Housing Estates.

RODENT REPORT

STAFF

During the year two rodent operatives were employed.

SEWERS

The whole of the sewerage system of the district was test baited in May, when 10 per cent. of the manholes on the main sewerage system were baited with sausage rusk. There was evidence of infestation in the parish of Farington and pre-baiting and poison-baiting was carried out, followed, after an interval of six months, by maintenance treatment.

SEWAGE WORKS

The Council's Sewage Works at Farington, Longton, Penwortham and Ribchester were treated periodically and infestation kept down to a minor level.

TIPS

Four refuse tips were in operation during the year at Grimsargh, Lea, Much Hoole and Ribchester, and infestation was kept under control by regular treatments.

PREMISES AND INFESTATION

A routine survey of all premises was carried on throughout the year, and the following figures illustrate the extent of this work and the number of infestations found and dealt with :

1. Total number of dwelling houses in the district	=	11,852
2. Total number of agricultural premises	=	1,050
3. Total number of business premises	=	450
4. Total number of premises inspected :		
(a) agricultural	=	1,597
re-inspections	=	58
(b) dwelling houses	=	333
re-inspections	=	20
(c) business	=	332
re-inspections	=	62
5. Total number of infested premises :		
(a) agricultural		
Mice—major	=	Nil
minor	=	10
Rats —major	=	Nil
minor	=	133
(b) dwelling houses		
Mice—major	=	Nil
minor	=	6
Rats —major	=	Nil
minor	=	6
(c) business		
Mice—major	=	Nil
minor	=	9
Rats —major	=	2
minor	=	21
6. Total number of infestations dealt with :		
(a) By the local authority—agricultural	=	116
dwelling houses	=	7
business	=	27
(b) By occupiers	=	37
7. Total number of informal notices served on occupiers	=	8
8. Total number of formal notices served on occupiers under Section 4 of the Act	=	Nil
9. Total number of formal notices of entry served on occupiers under Section 22 of the Act	=	2
10. Total number of occupiers found to be carrying out their own treatment with Warfarin	=	199
11. Total number of occupiers under contract with the local authority	=	102

BAIT AND POISONS

The bait used was sausage rusk or oatmeal, and the poison used was Zinc Phosphide, Arsenic or Warfarin.

CONTRACT SERVICE

Nearly all the occupiers of agricultural land participating in the Council's Contract Scheme renewed their contracts for the year 1960, a testimony to the satisfactory service afforded by the rodent control staff throughout the previous year.

A degree of competition was experienced from private operators who carry out an extensive service in the northern area of the district.

W. H. COUPERTHWAFTE,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Report of Building Surveyor

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting a Report on New Housing and the administration of the Building Bye-laws and the Town and Country Planning Acts and Regulations for the year 1960.

New Housing

The following table shows the number and situation of new houses which were erected, and gives a comparison with the previous year :

Parish	1960			1959		
	Private Enterprise	Council	Total	Private Enterprise	Council	Total
Barton	34	—	34	11	—	11
Broughton	3	—	3	1	—	1
Cuerdale	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dutton	1	—	1	—	—	—
Farington	3	—	3	28	—	28
Goosnargh	11	—	11	—	—	—
Grimsargh	6	—	6	1	—	1
Haighton	—	—	—	1	—	1
Hothersall	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hutton	10	—	10	25	—	25
Lea	36	—	36	2	—	2
Little Hoole	—	—	—	2	—	2
Longton	49	—	49	8	—	8
Much Hoole	1	—	1	—	—	—
Penwortham	202	15	217	156	46	202
Ribchester	1	—	1	3	—	3
Samlesbury	1	—	1	2	—	2
Whittingham	1	—	1	2	—	2
Woodplumpton	5	—	5	3	—	3
Totals	364	15	379	245	46	291

Administration of Building Bye-laws

Six hundred and four applications for proposed works were deposited with the Council and dealt with as follows:

Approved	592
Deferred	1
Plans withdrawn	11

Close supervision over all new works has been maintained so as to secure compliance with the Building Bye-laws, and the following is a summary of the inspections made for the purpose, viz :

Sites	308
Foundations	418
Damp-proof courses	281
Drainage	401
Completions	394
Miscellaneous	496

Town and Country Planning

Nine hundred and sixteen applications to develop were received and dealt with in accordance with the following table :

Classified as " Permitted Development "	379
Permission granted	345
Permission refused	135
Deferred	41
Application withdrawn	16

Nineteen appeals against refusal to grant permission to develop were made during the year, but six were subsequently withdrawn. Thirteen local inquiries were held by Inspectors appointed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government, with the following results :

Appeals dismissed	12
Appeals upheld	1

Council Housing Estates

One thousand six hundred and ninety-two visits have been made to Council housing estates, chiefly in connection with the examination of defects and supervision of works of repair. New housing schemes being carried out under contract were also closely supervised.

W. H. COUPERTHWAITE,

Building Surveyor.

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